

OCT 19 1999

Bruce Venner, Chief
Bureau of Federal Case Management
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
P. O. Box 028
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Re: L.E. Carpenter Superfund Site, Wharton Borough, Morris
County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Venner:

This letter is to bring to your attention a recent issue regarding the L.E. Carpenter Superfund Site in Wharton Borough, Morris County, New Jersey. Over the last year or so, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have reviewed several of the Potentially Responsible Parties's (PRP's) draft workplans regarding investigating the extent of BTEX and DEHP contamination at an area identified as MW-19/Hot Spot 1. EPA provided comments to the PRP's latest 1999 work plan via a letter to Gwen Zervas of your staff, dated September 22, 1999. This letter stated that EPA did not believe that the proposed work was adequate as scoped and that it especially did not address the need to determine whether the DEHP component of the plume is sinking in the aquifer. The NJDEP's subsequent September 30, 1999 letter addressed to the PRP stated that the NJDEP and EPA "have reviewed the Workplan" and that "This document is approved as submitted." This statement incorrectly implies that EPA concurs with the work plan, however, none of the comments and concerns related by EPA's September 22, 1999 letter were incorporated into the workplan, or relayed to the PRP.

Please be advised that EPA finds the workplan technically insufficient as it does not address EPA's comments and concerns, and EPA does not concur on the workplan. To prevent any misunderstanding, I further request that the NJDEP inform the PRP's of this fact.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss this matter further at (212) 637-4420, or have your staff contact Stephen Cipot of my staff at (212) 637-4411, to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely yours,

Carole Petersen, Chief
New Jersey Remediation Branch

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cc: Roman Luzecky, NJDEP
Gwen Zervas, NJDEP

bcc: Stephen Cipot, SNRJS